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NEW RADNOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

RADNORSHIRE

JOINT  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND OF THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1966.



NEW RADNOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,  
2 Mill Street,  
KINGTON,  
Herefordshire.

June, 1967

To the Chairman and members of the  
New Radnor Rural District Council,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1966,  
together with the Report of your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation  
to our Public Health Inspector, Mr. L. Allen, for his services to the Council  
and for his assistance and helpful co-operation.

I would also like to thank the Herefordshire Hospitals for their unfailing  
acceptance of patients from our area during this period when our County  
Hospital is unable to undertake its appropriate therapeutic duties.

Richard H. Jobson, M.B., Ch.B.

Medical Officer of Health

1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	51,892
Estimated population	2,040
Number of houses	660
Rateable Value	£30,894
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£132

2. VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(a) Live Births (legitimate)	21	11	10
"      "      (illgitimate)	4	2	2
TOTALS	25	13	12

(b) Infant Mortality

(i) Death of infants under 1 year	- 1 male
(ii) " " " " 4 weeks	- NIL
(iii) " " " " 1 week	- NIL

(c) Causes of deaths (statistics provided by the Registrar General)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasms, lung, bronchus	1	1	0
"      "      uterus	1	0	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	2	1
Coronary disease, angina	2	2	0
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1	2
Other heart diseases	3	1	2
"      circulatory disease	1	1	0
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	0
Congenital malformations	1	1	0
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	0
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	19	12	7

### 3. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The district has remained comparatively free from infectious and other diseases during the year under review.

### 4. TUBERCULOSIS

The County Medical Officer deals with all aspects of this disease.

### 5. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

The County Council is the responsible Authority for the execution of this Act.

Laboratory Facilities - These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford and the Public Analyst's Laboratory at Carmarthen.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORT

### 6. WATER SUPPLIES

The Radnorshire and North Breconshire Water Board became responsible for the public water supplies throughout the area from the 1st April, 1966. The one full time workman employed by the Council, mainly on water supply maintenance, was also transferred to the water board. In all, it was a very efficient transfer and no inconvenience was caused to consumers.

Samples of water were taken from both public and private supplies and where necessary, advice was given on how to improve these supplies.

Below are the results of bacteriological sampling of water supplies in the district:-

Public Supply	Source	Treatment	No. of Samples taken	No. of Samples	
				Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
New Radnor & district	Stream	Filtration & Chlorination	6	4	2
Franksbridge	Stream	"	4	3	1
Llandegley Bulk Supply	Elan Valley	"	1	1	0
Gladestry	Spring	NIL	4	3	1
Evenjobb	Spring	"	1	1	0
Kimmerton	Spring	"	1	0	1
Private Supplies	Various	"	13	4	9
TOTALS			30	16	14



Supplies have continued to be satisfactory in quality with the exception of Franksbridge and New Radnor. The results of these adverse samples were taken up with the water board. In the case of New Radnor, a break down occurred with the chlorinating apparatus, whilst at Franksbridge, the sample was taken following heavy rainfall which caused excessive disturbance and discolouration of water in the stream from which supply was taken, with subsequent break down in treatment plant.

Whilst no extreme shortages of water occurred throughout the district there were temporary shortages of water in -

- i. the villages of Glasgwm and Gladestry, although the sources of supply in both cases would appear to be adequate; and
- ii. the village of Newchurch and the parishes of Kinnerton, Harpton and Trewern where complaints of the inadequate supplies were received from local residents.

No samples of water were taken for chemical analysis during the year. No information is available on the fluoride content of the various samples and there was no indication that the waters were liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

The number of dwellings and estimated population supplied with piped or other supplies of water are given below:-

Parish	Total No. of Properties	Number of properties		supplied by private and/or public wells and/or springs	Estimated Population served
		with mains supply of water			
		into house	by standpipe		
Colva	22	-	-	22	66
Ednol	5	1	-	4	15
Evenjobb	65	24	7	34	207
Gladestry	62	22	7	33	192
Glasgwm	58	13	5	40	173
Harpton	21	9	-	12	63
Kinnerton	36	4	-	32	111
Llandegley	69	42	-	27	219
Llanfihangel	26	-	-	26	81
Michaelchurch	22	-	-	22	78
Newchurch	20	-	-	20	69
New Radnor	114	89	5	20	339
Old Radnor	86	40	10	36	250
Trewern	16	-	-	16	54
Walton	38	27	-	11	123
TOTALS	660	271	34	355*	2040

\* A large percentage of these dwellings have a supply of water piped into the house from their own private source.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

New Radnor Rural District must be the only district in the principality without a mains drainage scheme for any of their villages. There are now indications that this record may at last be broken. A letter was received from the Consulting Engineers stating that the necessary additional survey work had recently been completed in respect of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for New Radnor village, and they are expecting to supply the necessary information for submission to the Welsh Office. The existing disposal plant draining the council housing estate and four other properties has operated satisfactorily.

Arrangements were made for the small disposal plant at Llandegley to be de-sludged fortnightly. The river board have taken samples of effluent and these have been satisfactory.

The two remaining disposal plants at Gladestry and Evenjobb have been working to their full capacity and it has been necessary to de-sludge these septic tanks more frequently.

Three part-time workers are employed by the Council to carry out maintenance to these small sewage disposal plants.

There are numerous septic tank/soakaways throughout the district receiving effluent from individual dwellings. These are creating no nuisance, as there is no shortage of ground to utilize for these soakaways.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

As referred to in my last annual report the council finished the year without a contractor for collecting their refuse and this work was carried out by placing an order direct.

Contrary to expectations, the Council eventually received a satisfactory tender from a local contractor, for carrying out the collection of household refuse throughout their district. To date this work has been carried out in a satisfactory manner, although an open lorry is still in use. The Council intend reviewing their scheme of collection, it is hoped, with a view to implementing a fortnightly collection service.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping on three separate sites. Three part time workmen are employed by the Council to carry out the levelling and covering of these three tips. Difficulty has been experienced in obtaining soil to cover some of these tips and it may be necessary to purchase same and pay for its haulage to tips.

## HOUSING

Further improvements have been carried out to houses in the district both privately and with the aid of grants.

Whilst a number of houses in the district are lacking some of the essential amenities and may be considered to be below a satisfactory standard compared with the existing council house standard; they are not unfit for habitation. Every effort is made to bring these houses up to the "3 point scale" or preferably the "5 point scale" of the standard grant either by correspondence or personal interview. In this respect every effort is made to ensure that local house owners are aware of the grants that are available for improving their dwellings.



Slum Clearance, etc. - During the year two dwellings (both good houses) were demolished to make way for road improvements. Nine houses were completely modernized either with the aid of grants or privately. The standard of fitness of some other houses was improved.

Below is a revised schedule showing the standard of fitness of dwellings in the district.

Number of houses	Categories		
	1 & 2	3	4 & 5
660	309	258	93

Private Building - The erection of two new dwellings was completed during the year, and three more houses were under construction at the end of the year.

Council house building - Serious consideration was given to the erection of more Council houses, especially in the Old Radnor area. The Council gave consideration to both traditional and industrialised dwellings but deferred a decision to proceed with any building programme "in view of the national financial situation." The Council also felt that they would have great difficulty in erecting dwellings to let at an economic rent, when bearing in mind the average basic wage that was earned by workers in the area.

Improvement Grants - Below are figures comparing the number of grants approved during the year, with those for previous years:-

#### Discretionary

Year	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of applications approved	1	NIL	3	1	2
Amount of grant approved	£355	NIL	£918	£260	£800

#### Standard

Year	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of applications approved	5	4	1	8	4

Improvement Areas - The Council are satisfied that there is no area within the district which ought to be declared an improvement area.

#### CARAVAN SITES

Planning approval was given to two further holiday caravan sites in the area bringing the total number of sites to four. These sites are mainly occupied between the months of May to September inclusive. Whilst these sites have not been used to their fullest capacity facilities provided would appear adequate. Arrangements have been made for the site operators to dispose of any accumulation of refuse that may occur between official refuse collection times.

In addition, there are eight individual caravan sites in the area. These sites are used as "permanent" homes although their planning approval is only for a three year period.

# 11. RODENT CONTROL

The Council continued to make free poison available to domestic properties. Farms are being treated by private operators or by the occupiers.

Minor infestations have occurred on two of Council's refuse tips, but these have been treated, and infestations not allowed to spread.

No resistance to warfarin poisoning had been experienced in the district.

# 12. FOOD PREMISES & FOOD INSPECTION

Food Premises - The premises are summarised as follows -

Butchers Shop	1
Bakery	1
Grocery Stores	7
Public Houses	8
School Canteens	6
Inspections	<u>23</u>

## Food and Drugs Act 1955. Section 16

No. of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream	11
No. of premises registered for the preparation and sale of sausages, etc.	<u>1</u>
INSPECTIONS	<u>12</u>

Improvements are being carried out to the butcher's shop and premises to bring it into full compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

One registration was cancelled and one premises was registered during the year for the storage and sale of ice cream. Only pre-packed ice cream is sold at these premises.

Meat Inspection - There are no licensed slaughter-houses in the district. All meat retailed from butchers' shops or vans coming into the district is slaughtered outside the district and inspected before it leaves the slaughterhouse.

Milk Supply - All dairy premises in the district are occupied by producer/wholesalers and come under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture. Retailers operating in the area have their premises outside the district.

# 13. CLEAN AIR

Dust from Quarries - Increased production at the quarries in the area, and the introduction of tarmacadam plants at two of these quarries, aggravated the nuisance due to omission of dust. The owners concerned have now written to the Council stating that they will be installing further dust collecting equipment in all plant so as to eliminate this pollution of the atmosphere.


# 14. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	5	5
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	11	11
TOTAL	16	16



15. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

No further premises were registered during the year in accordance with this Act. To date 6 premises have been registered in the district, and 6 general inspections have been carried out, in conjunction with other work. Most of the business premises in the district are self employed or employ members of their family, and are therefore exempt from registration. The only additional premises likely to come within the scope of the Act are public houses - once there is a change of ownership or tenancy.



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(including Parish they represent)

AND

CHIEF OFFICERS

as at 31st December, 1966.

J. E. Hughes (Chairman) - LLANDEGLEY

J. H. Evans (Vice-Chairman) - EVENJOBB

A. L. Price	- COLVA	R. Davies	- LLANFIHANGEL --NANT-MELAN
J. T. Edwards	- EDNOL	S. K. Williams	- MICHAELCHURCH
I. J. Lloyd	- GLADESTRY	I. Lloyd	- NEWCHURCH
C. T. Davies	- GLASCWM	D. T. Evans	- NEW RADNOR
Mrs. I Harley-Davies	- GLASCWM	I. J. Hughes	- OLD RADNOR
B. D. R. Ball	- HARPTON	E. L. Mills	- TREWERN
V. T. Jones	- KINNERTON	P. S. Hughes	- WALTON

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer - R. A. Davies

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. R. H. Johnson

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector - L. Allen, M.A.P.H.I.



